

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Original): A coating liquid for an intermediate layer of an electrophotographic photoconductor comprising a titanium oxide and a polycarboxylic acid polymer in a solvent.

Claim 2 (Original): The coating liquid for an intermediate layer of an electrophotographic photoconductor according to claim 1, wherein said polycarboxylic acid polymer is at least one selected from a saturated polycarboxylic acid polymer and an unsaturated polycarboxylic acid polymer.

Claim 3 (Original): The coating liquid for an intermediate layer of an electrophotographic photoconductor according to claim 1, wherein the content of said polycarboxylic acid polymer is 0.3 to 10 parts by weight in respect to 100 parts by weight of said titanium oxide.

Claim 4 (Original): The coating liquid for an intermediate layer of an electrophotographic photoconductor according to claim 1, wherein an acid value of said polycarboxylic acid polymer is 100 to 400 mgKOH/g.

Claim 5 (Original): The coating liquid for an intermediate layer of an electrophotographic photoconductor according to claim 1, wherein said titanium oxide has a purity of 99.0% or higher.

Claim 6 (Original): The coating liquid for an intermediate layer of an electrophotographic photoconductor according to claim 1, further comprising a resin.

Claim 7 (Original): The coating liquid for an intermediate layer of an electrophotographic photoconductor according to claim 6, wherein the content of said titanium oxide is 300 to 800 parts by weight in respect to 100 parts by weight of said resin.

Claim 8 (Original): A method of manufacturing a coating liquid for an intermediate layer of an electrophotographic photoconductor comprising a step for mixing a solvent, a titanium oxide, and at least one of a saturated polycarboxylic acid polymer and an unsaturated polycarboxylic polymer.

Claims 9-15 (Cancelled).

Claim 16 (Original): An electrophotographic apparatus comprising: an electrophotographic photoconductor;  
a charger configured to charge the electrophotographic photoconductor;  
a light irradiator configured to irradiate the electrophotographic photoconductor with a light to form an electrostatic latent image on the electrophotographic photoconductor;  
an image developer configured to develop the electrostatic latent image with a developer comprising a toner to form a toner image on the electrophotographic photoconductor;  
a transfer configured to transfer the toner image onto a receiving material; and  
a fixer configured to fix the toner image on the receiving material;

wherein said electrophotographic photoconductor comprises at least an intermediate layer and a photosensitive layer on an electroconductive substrate, and said intermediate layer contains a titanium oxide and a polycarboxylic acid polymer.

Claim 17 (Original): The electrophotographic apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said light irradiator has a semiconductor laser.

Claim 18 (Original): A process cartridge for an electrographic apparatus comprising an intermediate layer which comprises a titanium oxide and a polycarboxylic acid polymer, and a photosensitive layer on an electroconductive substrate.